



## OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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To: Vice Presidents and Members, WT Council  
Presidents and Secretaries General, WT Member National Associations

### **Postponement of Tokyo 2020 and Subsequent Impact on WT Calendar**

Dear Colleagues,

First of all, I wish good health to you and your family. These are unprecedented times. Now more than ever, we need to take good care of our health and our loved ones.

Over the past two weeks, World Taekwondo attended three conference calls with the IOC President, and many more with the IOC Sport department and related stakeholders, with regard to the postponement of the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo to 2021.

In our call last night, it was confirmed that the new dates of the Olympic Games in Tokyo will be organised from July 23<sup>rd</sup> to August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The Paralympic Games, in which Para Taekwondo will be making its debut, will be held from August 24<sup>th</sup> to September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

We welcome the announcement of the new dates, as it brings about clarity and a sense of assurance to World Taekwondo stakeholders. We will now work towards arranging our own sports calendar. We are also discussing with the IOC and ASOIF to address the distribution of Olympic Games revenue to all international federations, which could be delayed. That would have huge impact on World Taekwondo's daily operations and various projects.

As a result of the postponement of the Olympic and Paralympic Games to 2021, the World Taekwondo Championships originally scheduled to be held in Wuxi in May 2021 will also need to be postponed. While the exact dates are not confirmed yet, we expect the World Championships to be held in the fourth quarter of 2021.

Through this letter, I would like to make some announcements after discussions with the relevant stakeholders.

First, there is no change in status quo with regard to quotas qualified through athletes ranking and the continental qualification tournaments in Africa, Oceania and Panam. Congratulations once again to the Member National Associations and national Olympic and Paralympic committees that have qualified for Tokyo.

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Second, with regard to the remaining Taekwondo qualification tournaments in Asia and Europe, it was agreed they will need to be organised within this year. We will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and work closely with the host cities to ensure the safety of the participating athletes and officials. We will announce the suitable dates at a later time.

Third, all WT-promoted and WT-recognised events including all G1 and G2 competitions from now until the end of May will be postponed or cancelled. For the other WT events after May, we will monitor the situation and make the necessary adjustment, if necessary. We understand that there could be some stakeholders who might be disappointed with this decision; this is an inevitable decision for everyone's health and safety.

As it stands for now, the World Taekwondo Junior Championships in Sofia, Bulgaria, on October 14-18, 2020 where we will have our General Assembly, will be held as scheduled. That being said, with the uncertainty on the Olympic Games revenue and for the sake of financial sustainability, we will not be organising the Taekwondo symposium this year. We would like to thank you in advance for your understanding.

Furthermore, the World Taekwondo Grand Prix Finals and Gala in Cancun, Mexico, is also scheduled to take place on November 28-29, 2020. We would like to thank our MNAs in Bulgaria and Mexico, and the host cities for their dedication and continued preparations amid the ongoing global crisis.

Finally, I would like to conclude this letter with a personal belief: I firmly believe that the global Taekwondo family will emerge stronger than ever from this global pandemic and various challenges.

In unity and solidarity,

Sincerely yours,

*Chungwon Choue*  
Chungwon Choue  
President

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